IN THE INFINITE DARKNESS THEY ARE WAITING!
50¢
ALL NEW!
NO.114
DEC.
MYSTERY IN SPACE
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
HURTLED INTO THE DISTANT PAST, CAN HE GIVE THE WORLD A...
SECOND CHANCE!
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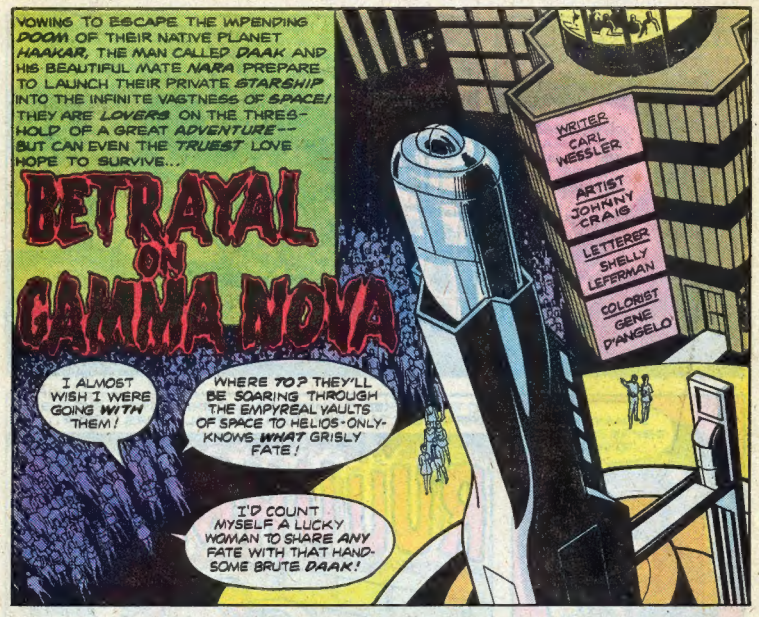
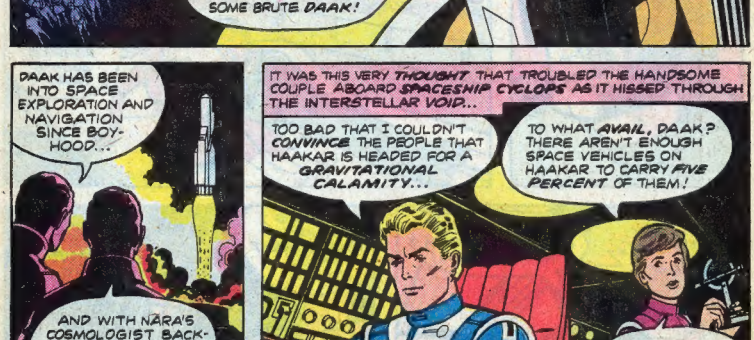

VOWING TO ESCAPE THE IMPENDING DOOM OF THEIR NATIVE PLANET HAAKAR, THE MAN CALLED DAAK AND HIS BEAUTIFUL MATE NARA PREPARE TO LAUNCH THEIR PRIVATE STARSHIP INTO THE INFINITE VASTNESS OF SPACE! THEY ARE LOVERS ON THE THRESHOLD OF A GREAT ADVENTURE--BUT CAN EVEN THE TRUEST LOVE HOPE TO SURVIVE...
BETRAYAL ON GAMMA NOVA
WRITER CARL WESSLER
ARTIST JOHNNY CRAIG
LETTERER SHELLY LEFFERMAN
COLORIST GENE D'ANGELO
I ALMOST WISH I WERE GOING WITH THEM!
WHERE TO? THEY'LL BE SOARING THROUGH THE EMPYREAL VAULTS OF SPACE TO HELIOS-ONLY-KNOWS WHAT GRISLY FATE!
I'D COUNT MYSELF A LUCKY WOMAN TO SHARE ANY FATE WITH THAT HANDSOME BRUTE DAAK!


DAAK HAS BEEN INTO SPACE EXPLORATION AND NAVIGATION SINCE BOYHOOD...
AND WITH NARA'S COSMOLOGIST BACKGROUND, THEY'VE GOT IT ALL--EXCEPT A SAFE PLACE TO LAND!
IT WAS THIS VERY THOUGHT THAT TROUBLED THE HANDSOME COUPLE ABOARD SPACESHIP CYCLOPS AS IT HISSED THROUGH THE INTERSTELLAR VOID...
TOO BAD THAT I COULDN'T CONVINCE THE PEOPLE THAT HAAKAR IS HEADED FOR A GRAVITATIONAL CALAMITY...
TO WHAT AVAIL, DAAK? THERE AREN'T ENOUGH SPACE VEHICLES ON HAAKAR TO CARRY FIVE PERCENT OF THEM!
AND EVEN WE DON'T KNOW OUR ULTIMATE DESTINATION!

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HAVING ESCAPED THE GRIP OF HAAKAR'S SUN, THE SPACESHIP CYCLOPS STREAKED BEYOND THE KNOWN SOLAR SYSTEM...
WE'RE FREE NOW, NARA! FREE TO LOOK TO THE FUTURE!
I'VE NO DOUBT THAT THERE'S LIFE IN THE SECOND UNIVERSE WE'RE HEADING FOR— BUT IT DOES RESEMBLE OURS, DAAK?
THEY'RE HUMANOID, NARA. I'VE NOT SEEN THEM-- JUST THEIR SPACECRAFT.
IN MANY WAYS, THEY'RE SUPERIOR TO OURS:..
SO THEY TALKED THEMSELVES INTO EXHAUSTION, AND THEY DRIFTED OFF TO SLEEP. THEN, SEVERAL HOURS LATER...
RUUUHMBLE
WHAT IN THE NAME OF ROARING ZEUS IS THAT?!
NARA, HAVE A LOOK-SEE THROUGH THE NOSE GLASS!
I'M AFRAID I DON'T KNOW WHAT PLANET THAT IS, NARA.
NOR DO I, DAAK. LET'S JUST TAKE ON THE FUEL WE NEED AND BE ON OUR WAY!
2

A NOTE OF FEAR CREPT THROUGH NARA'S CALM RETORT! DAAK HURRIED TO HER SIDE, TO BE GREETED BY A CHILLING SIGHT...
YOU ARE OUR PRISONERS! YOU WILL SAIL PAST US TO GAMMA NOVA, OUR PLANET...
ATTEMPT TO DO OTHERWISE, AND YOU WILL BE DISINTEGRATED!
IT'S EERIE -- I HEAR HIS VOICE IN MY HEAD!
WE'D BETTER FOLLOW ORDERS, DAAK. WE REALLY HAVE NO CHOICE!
YOU WILL DISEMBARK AT THE SPACEPORT. ANY ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE, AND YOU'LL BECOME DUST INSTANTLY!
DON'T LOSE YOUR TEMPER, DAAK. I'M IN NO HURRY TO DIE, ESPECIALLY ON THIS FORSAKEN PLANET!
I WON'T START ANYTHING, NARA--THAT MUCH I PROMISE!
3

KROZ SAW NARA OFTEN AFTER THAT DAY. IT WAS A SOURCE OF GROWING ILL FEELING BETWEEN HER AND HER JEALOUS MATE...
YOU'RE NOT TO GO WITH THAT SWINE AGAIN, NARA!
BE STILL, YOU FOOL! HE'LL HAVE YOU DESTROYED!

I ASK YOU FOR NOTHING MORE THAN ENOUGH FUEL TO LET NARA AND ME GO ON OUR WAY, KROZ!
YOU'LL GO ON YOUR WAY WITH ALL THE FUEL YOU CAN CARRY --BUT NARA WILL STAY HERE --WITH ME!

NO!! I'LL NEVER LET HER GO--NEVER! SELFISH SWINE! I'LL MAKE HER MY EMPRESS! CAN YOU OFFER NARA AS MUCH?
I CAN OFFER HER YOUR HEAD IN THE DUST!

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING

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DIE, YOU VULTURE CARRION!
GUARDS--!
YOU'LL SCREAM FOR MERCY FOR YOUR INSULT TO ME AND THE CELESTIAL EMPIRE OF GAMMA NOVA! I'LL SEE YOUR REMAINS CAST INTO THE VILEST CESSPOOL ON THIS PLANET!
YOU MISERABLE FOOL, DAAK! DID YOU REALLY THINK I'D TURN DOWN THIS CHANCE TO BECOME THE MATE, THE EMPRESS, OF THE MIGHTIEST RULER OF THIS UNIVERSE?
NO, KROZ! I WILL NOT SHARE THIS PLANET EVEN WITH HIS VILE REMAINS...THE DREGS OF THIS GALAXY! SEND HIM AWAY!
GUARDS! TAKE THE PRISONER TO HIS SPACECRAFT. SEE THAT THE CYCLOPS COMPUTROL IS SET FOR THE FARTHEST REACHES OF THIS UNIVERSE...
THIS IS A NIGHTMARE, NARA! SURELY YOU CAN'T MEAN IT...
GUARDS, YOU HEARD HER! YOU WILL OBEY HER COMMANDS AS IF THEY WERE MY OWN!
5

I...I STILL LOVE YOU, NARA--I ALWAYS WILL!
SET THE SELF-DESTRUCT TO BE ACTIVATED TWO HOURS AFTER THE CYCLOPS LANDS. I WANT TO BE SURE HE NEVER RETURNS!

AN OFFICER AND TWO GUARDS TOOK DAAK ABOARD THE CYCLOPS, SET THE AUTO-NAVIGATION PILOT FOR AN ORBIT THAT WOULD CARRY IT MOST DISTANT FROM GAMMA NOVA...
CURSE YOU AND YOUR TREACHERY, NARA! I SHOULD HATE YOU, BUT I CAN'T!

THERE HAD BEEN TEARS IN THE EYES OF NARA'S BETRAYED MATE--BUT NOW THEY WERE TEARS OF TOWERING FURY...
HERE'S THE BLASTOFF, YOU CURSED TWO-TIMING WITCH! I'LL BANISH ALL MEMORY OF YOU, NARA--AS SOON AS THIS FESTERING HATE I FEEL IS WORN AWAY BY TIME!

BUT THROUGH THE FIRST THREE SUN-SETS OF HIS LIGHTNING-FAST JOURNEY THROUGH THE VAST REACHES OF THE SECOND UNIVERSE, DAAK SEETHED AT THE HUMILIATION OF HIS BANISHMENT BY THE EMPEROR OF GAMMA NOVA, AND HIS BETRAYAL ON THE PLANET BY NARA...

OFTEN HE WOULD GLANCE BACK WITH YEARNING, AT THAT PLANET, IN SPITE OF HIS HATRED FOR THE TYRANT KROZ, AND HIS ONCE-BELOVED MATE! BUT THAT THIRD NIGHT, BEFORE SUNRISE...
BUH-WOOOOOM!

BUT DAAK WAS SHATTERED BY AN EVEN GREATER PERSONAL SHOCK...
IT'S A PLANET TORN LOOSE FROM THE SUN'S GRAVITATIONAL GRIP --DESTROYING ALL IN ITS PATH...
IT'S A HALF A MILLION MILES AWAY, BUT ITS HEAT IS UNBEARABLE!
WAIT! I'VE SEEN THAT PLANET AS I APPROACHED FROM OUTER SPACE JAUNTS! IT'S HAAKAR!!
AND SPACE EXPLORER DAAK WATCHED WITH FASCINATION...WITH DREAD...WITH ANGUISH... AND HE FELT AN AGONIZING WRENCH AS HE SAW THE PLANET-SHATTERING COLLISION A THOUSAND LIGHT YEARS AWAY...
BUH-WHOOOOM!
HAAKAR HAS SLAMMED INTO GAMMA NOVA!
NOW DAAK UNDERSTOOD...
NARA KNEW THAT GAMMA NOVA WAS DOOMED-- SHE JUST DIDN'T KNOW WE WERE ON THAT PLANET TILL IT WAS TOO LATE!
NARA GAVE HER LIFE SO THAT I MIGHT LIVE. HOW GREAT WAS HER LOVE!
End

WONDERS of SPACE

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NEW YORK, N.Y. 10019

Editor's Note: We sent copies of MYSTERY IN SPACE #111 to certain, selected readers for advance comments for this page, so we're turning it over to them...read on:

Dear Len,

The stories this issue more than fit the title and seemed to have been written for it instead of *TIME WARP*. "Final Warning" was the epitomy of this. Here was a real mystery in space for Ambassador Ramshed to solve. The plot was interesting, and the story had that quality of keeping one on the edge of his seat. The shock ending was the giveaway that it was meant for *TIME WARP*. I have admired Dan Spiegle's artwork elsewhere; so I enjoyed it here.

"Viewpoints", "Sure Things" and "Once Upon a Time Machine" were hardly stories in the *MYSTERY IN SPACE* milieu. They didn't deal with the unknown mysteries of outer space, but rather were confined to time; and as such more in line with a title like *TIME WARP*. "Viewpoints" was a very interesting story and my personal favorite. It had a certain quality that I find hard to put into words; perhaps it was the *deus ex machina* concept that was present which heightened my excitement. We learned just as the machine did, and the fact that he created his own time was interesting. Perhaps I liked this one best because it was the only one with a happy ending. Of course "Once Upon a Time Machine" had one also, but it was a story in a much lighter vein. It was a good change of pace from the others, and as such a needed sigh of relief. It was amusing and light-hearted and I enjoyed it and its concepts. "Sure Things" was an amusing one page kicker, with a point that hit right to home. However, these one page "stories" might have been fine for *TIME WARP*, but I feel that they are out of place here.

"The Singling" was a very unusual and different story. It gave one time to think from panel to panel and its ramifications were extended further from the bizzare ending. Just what caused this Earth man to come to this is something that we may never know or understand. Unusual and very good. Of course, Jim Apero's distinct style was easily spotted.

With the kind of talent that was behind *MYSTERY IN SPACE* number 111, this comic is sure to become a hit again and recapture its glory of the sixties.

Kent A. Phenis
1082 Sherwood Court #603
Greenwood, IN 46142

* * * * *

Dear Editor,

If "Final Warning," the issue's first story, was meant to be scary, it succeeded. As each panel progressed the tension mounted. I was a little disappointed that the "warning" didn't get through when the receiving station didn't accept the charges. It made me think about how all the casual decisions we make without realizing how much they affect our lives.

"Viewpoints" showed us a little of what sets us apart from other animals. Even the advanced robot that had some emotions didn't possess the compassion the human "brute" did. I also enjoyed the Adam and Eve touch at the end.

I really enjoyed Jim Apero's art on "The Singling" as well as the no-dialogue effect. I think Col. Davis' course of action somewhat represents a struggle that many of us have had to deal with. Either standing up for what you believe in and be willing to die for it (as the sharpshooter did) or to sell out because you're too afraid to die. I think that Col. Davis should be pitied for, a coward dies 1,000 deaths; a hero but one.

"Sure Things" sure was. The old joke about death and taxes sure came true. Even with the destruction I found the story kinda funny.

And, "Once Upon a Time Machine" (cute title) was a light, nice change of pace. Ditko's style fit the story perfectly. Although the coincidences were too numerous to believe, Merrill's fairy tale hobby come true must have been pure ecstasy for him. I wonder if there are any comic book hobbyists who have had the same wish. I know that I've wished I could live in a simpler time.

Thanks for the advance copy. Good Luck on MIS.

Jim McDonald
725 Woodbine
Oak Park, IL 60302

* * * * *

Dear Editor,

Gerald Brown's "Final Warning!" used an old idea and made it into a very intriguing tale. The ending was great! Dan Spiegle did much better here than in JONAH HEX. His art reminds me somewhat of Alex Toth's style.

"Viewpoints" was far-out! If there was a "message" at the end, then I think I got what it meant. But it was Marshall Rogers' art that really knocked me out! That man is more of a storyteller than you know! When the story was focusing on the cave people, Rogers used more realistic and heavy lines, representing that era. When it focused on the robot and/or his time period, Marshall used the modern, fine lines most people recognize his work with. Excellent!

Loved "The Singling." One of the most touching stories I've ever read. Jim Aparo's art was beautiful. His stuff out of BRAVE AND BOLD always delights me. Emotions are superbly portrayed by him. I can't wait to see those repeated panels on page 6.

"Sure Things" had the flavor of the old E.C. Comics: one page, fast-paced, and an unexpected ending. The art was average.

"Once Upon A Time Machine" by Barr and Ditko was probably my favorite. Mike's idea was original and I hoped that the tale would continue, but I'm familiar enough with the King Arthur legend to know what will happen. Steve's simplistic, humorous, fairy tale artwork was the best choice for the tale. More, please!

If you plan on a series in MIS (hopefully one character or group, each in three 8-page stories), I suggest Adam Strange, Star Hunters, or that Human Torch-like character from TIME WARP #6.

Chris Khalaf
6126 Georgi Lane
Houston, TX 77092

* * * * *

LEN'S LINE-UP—DEC.

ON SALE SEPTEMBER 11th

- *THE FLASH* #292—Guess which villain attacks *Flash* in "Mirror, Mirror, Off the Wall" by Cary Bates and Don Heck. Then, *Firestorm* fights to free "The Hostages of Precinct 13" by Gerry Conway, George Perez and Bob Smith.

JUSTICE LEAGUE #185—The concluding chapter of the monumental team-up as Gerry Conway, George Perez and Frank McLaughlin present "Crisis on Apokolips, or Darkseid Rising!"

WEIRD WAR TALES #94—"The Eye of Hell" looks at *The War That Time Forgot* with Robert Kanigher and Franc Reyes; George Kashdan, Dick Ayers and Dan Adkins are "Hungry for the Kill"; Kanigher and Fred Carrillo see a "Battle Angel"; and J.M. DeMatteis and Gerald Forton travel "Through the Past, Darkly".

WONDER WOMEN #274—Gerry Conway, Jose Delbo and Dave Hunt serve up "One Super-Villain:Made to Order". Plus: *Power Girl* joins *The Huntress* to "Speak From the Shadows" with Paul Levitz, Joe Staton and Steve Mitchell.

THE NEW TEEN TITANS #2—"Wrath of the Ravager" is a 25-page blockbuster by Marv Wolfman, George Perez and Romeo Tanghal.

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THE EVIL TARA COBAL AND FORTRAN HAVE TAKEN CONTROL OF THE COMPUTER IN THE S.T.A.R. LAB OUTSIDE METROPOLIS!
I'LL SET UP MY OWN SATELLITE EMPIRE! ALL THE TV STATIONS WILL HAVE TO COME TO ME FOR THE WEATHER FORECAST!
I DON'T WANT TO DESTROY THE ACCESS TERMINAL, SO I'LL HAVE TO DISTRACT THEM...
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I THINK SOME ELEMENTAL CONTACT IS IN ORDER!
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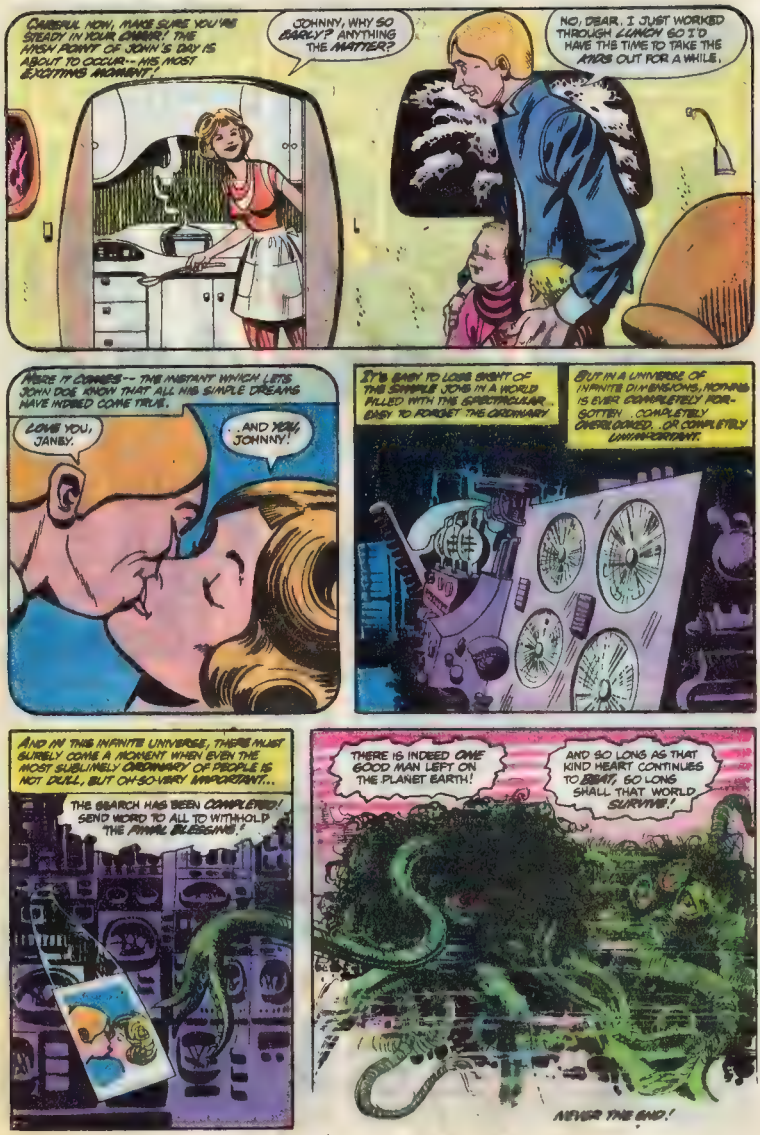
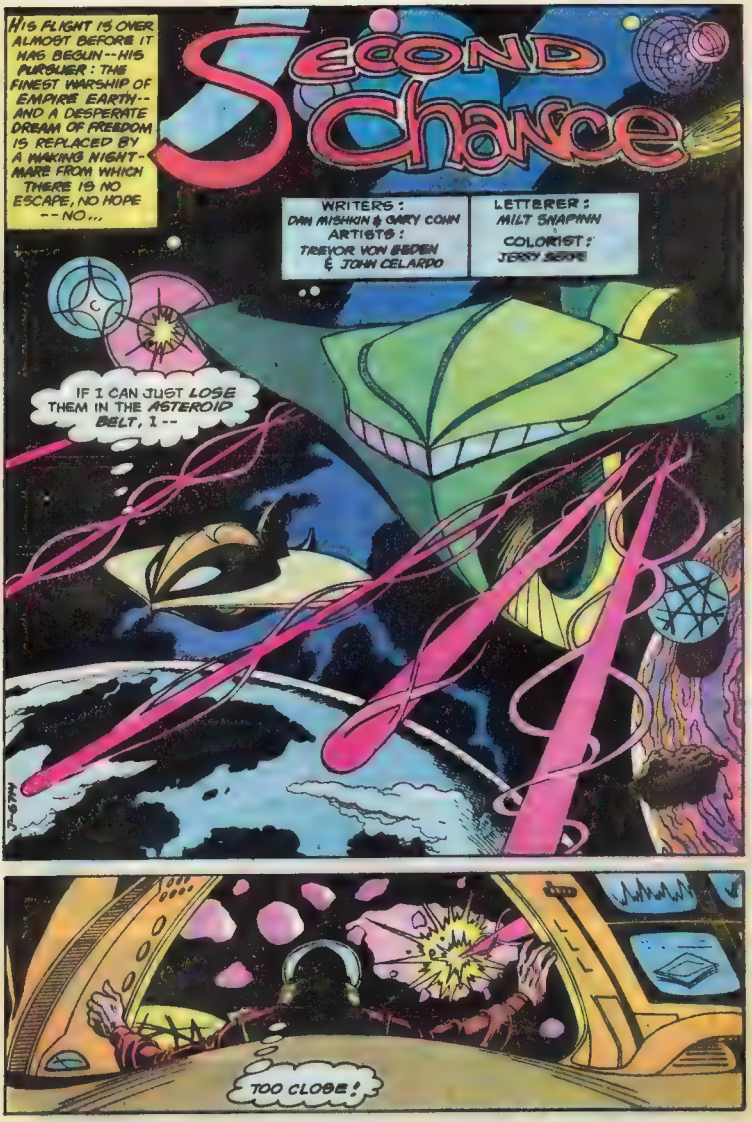
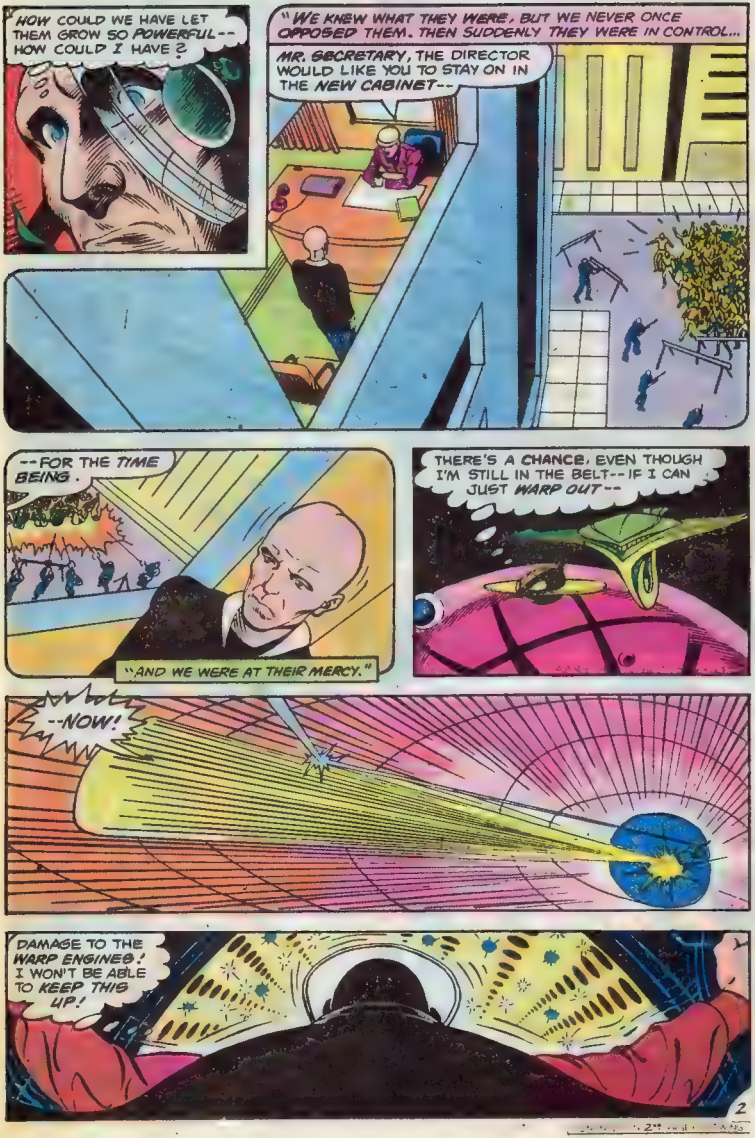
ASK THE NEXT PERSON YOU MEET TO DEFINE ORDINARY, AND YOU'LL PROBABLY GET AN ANSWER THAT ADDS UP TO DULL. NO MATTER HOW AMAZING OUR WORLD BECOMES, HOW FANTASTIC OUR TECHNOLOGY BECOMES, IN THE END EVERYTHING BECOMES ORDINARY AND DULL.
AL... WE'RE INTERESTED IN IS THE NEXT NEW DEVELOPMENT, TREND OR FAD AND WHO WILL BE THE CELEBRITY OF THE NEXT FIFTEEN MINUTES
BUT SOMETIMES IT'S NOT WHAT'S COMING THAT MATTERS; IT'S WHAT'S ALREADY HERE. OR IN THIS CASE, WHO.
FOR EXAMPLE. TAKE JOHN DOE. HE'S DEFINITELY AN ORDINARY MAN
THE ONE THAT MATTERS
PAUL LEVITZ, writer
DAN SPIEGLE artist
JOHN COSTANZA, letterer
JERRY SERPE colorist
LEN WEIN, editor

BORN TO ORDINARY PARENTS WHO MET WHILE WORKING IN THE METHANE-RECOVERY PLANT AT THE LOCAL GARBAGE DUMP, JOHN HAS NEVER DARED HAVE GREAT DREAMS. IN FACT, HE RARELY DREAMS AT ALL.
THERE YOU GO, PUPPY! THAT NASTY BARRIER-RAIL IS A GOOD THING TO KEEP AWAY FROM!
TWENTY YEARS OF SCHOOL, FIVE YEARS OF APPRENTICESHIP TO HIS CHOSEN TRADE AS AN OPTICAL LASER OPERATOR SUPERVISING INTER-COMPUTER COMMUNICATIONS. ALL THIS HAS GIVEN JOHN ONLY ORDINARY AMBITIONS.
EXCUSE ME, MAY I JUST SLIP PAST YOU ONTO THE WEST-BOUND EXPRESS LANE?
A NICE HOME, A NICE FAMILY, A STEADY JOB... ALL IN ALL, THE PERFECT RECIPE FOR THE DULL LIFE.
OH, I'M SO SORRY--AM I IN YOUR WAY? I DIDN'T REALIZE YOU WERE GOING UP TOWARDS THE WATER-SIDE HOUSING COMPLEX, TOO!
ISN'T IT A LOVELY DEVELOPMENT?
PROMOTIONS DON'T COME EASILY TO JOHN... ALMOST NOTHING DOES, COME TO THINK OF IT, EXCEPT, PERHAPS FOR A FEW EVER-PRESENT KIND WORDS.
HOW'S IT GOIN', STARSHIP TROOPERS?
DADDY! YOU'RE HOME EARLY!
AND, OH YES... A SMILE. MUSTN'T FORGET THAT.
MICKEY'S BLOWN UP THREE OF MY BATTLE CRUISERS ALREADY, DADDY!
HMM.. MAYBE THAT'S 'CAUSE YOU FORGOT TO ADJUST YOUR INTER-CEPTOR ROOSTER. SEE?
2


CAREFUL NOW, MAKE SURE YOU'RE STEADY IN YOUR CHAIR! THE MUSH POINT OF JOHN'S DAY IS ABOUT TO OCCUR-- HIS MOST EXCITING MOMENT!
JOHNNY, WHY SO EARLY? ANYTHING THE MATTER?
NO, DEAR. I JUST WORKED THROUGH LUNCH SO I'D HAVE THE TIME TO TAKE THE KIDS OUT FOR A WHILE.
MORE IT COMES-- THE INSTANT WHICH LETS JOHN DOE KNOW THAT ALL HIS SIMPLE DREAMS HAVE INDEED COME TRUE.
LOVE YOU, JANEY.
...AND YOU, JOHNNY!
IT'S EASY TO LOSE SIGHT OF THE SIMPLE JOYS IN A WORLD FILLED WITH THE SPECTACULAR... EASY TO FORGET THE ORDINARY
BUT IN A UNIVERSE OF INFINITE DIMENSIONS, NOTHING IS EVER COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN...COMPLETELY OVERLOOKED...OR COMPLETELY UNIMPORTANT.
AND IN THIS INFINITE UNIVERSE, THERE MUST SURELY COME A MOMENT WHEN EVEN THE MOST SUBLIMELY ORDINARY OF PEOPLE IS NOT DULL, BUT OH SO VERY IMPORTANT...
THE SEARCH HAS BEEN COMPLETED! SEND WORD TO ALL TO WITHHOLD THE FINAL BLESSING!
THERE IS INDEED ONE GOOD MAN LEFT ON THE PLANET EARTH!
AND SO LONG AS THAT KIND HEART CONTINUES TO BEAT, SO LONG SHALL THAT WORLD SURVIVE!
NEVER THE END!


HIS FLIGHT IS OVER ALMOST BEFORE IT HAS BEGUN--HIS PURSUER: THE FINEST WARSHIP OF EMPIRE EARTH--AND A DESPERATE DREAM OF FREEDOM IS REPLACED BY A WAKING NIGHTMARE FROM WHICH THERE IS NO ESCAPE, NO HOPE --NO...
SECOND CHANCE
WRITERS: DAN MISHKIN & GARY COHN
ARTISTS: TREVOR VON EEDEN & JOHN CELARDO
LETTERER: MILT SNAPINN
COLORIST: JERRY SERPE
IF I CAN JUST LOSE THEM IN THE ASTEROID BELT, I --
TOO CLOSE!


HOW COULD WE HAVE LET THEM GROW SO POWERFUL-- HOW COULD I HAVE?
"WE KNEW WHAT THEY WERE, BUT WE NEVER ONCE OPPOSED THEM. THEN SUDDENLY THEY WERE IN CONTROL...
MR. SECRETARY, THE DIRECTOR WOULD LIKE YOU TO STAY ON IN THE NEW CABINET--
--FOR THE TIME BEING.
"AND WE WERE AT THEIR MERCY."
THERE'S A CHANCE, EVEN THOUGH I'M STILL IN THE BELT-- IF I CAN JUST WARP OUT--
--NOW!
DAMAGE TO THE WARP ENGINES! I WON'T BE ABLE TO KEEP THIS UP!

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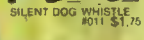

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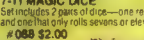

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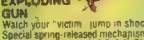

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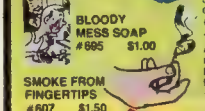

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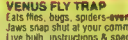

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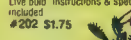

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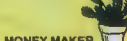

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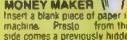

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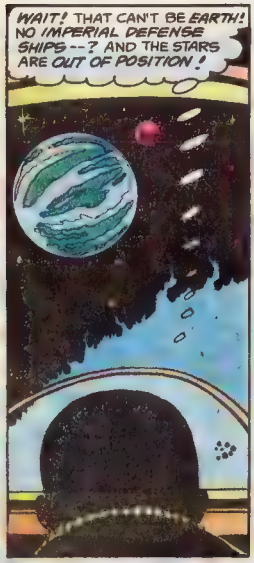
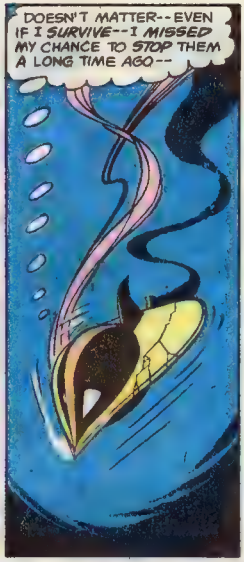
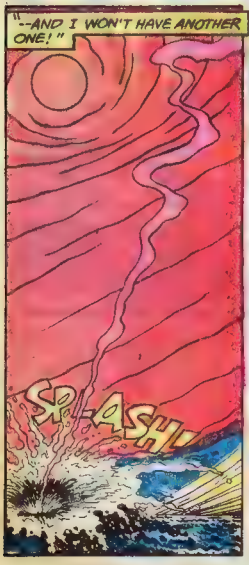
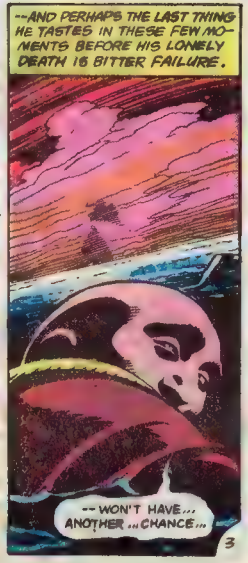

WAIT! THAT CAN'T BE EARTH! NO IMPERIAL DEFENSE SHIPS--? AND THE STARS ARE OUT OF POSITION!

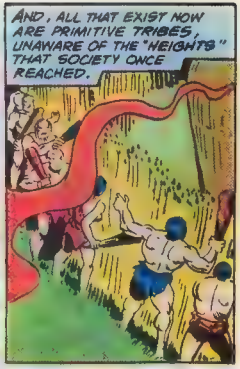

DOESN'T MATTER--EVEN IF I SURVIVE--I MISSED MY CHANCE TO STOP THEM A LONG TIME AGO--


"--AND I WON'T HAVE ANOTHER ONE!"
SP-ASH!

THE FATE OF THE REFUGEE, PERHAPS, AWAITS HIM IN SOME NAMELESS GRAVE, FAR FROM HOME--


--AND PERHAPS THE LAST THING HE TASTES IN THESE FEW MOMENTS BEFORE HIS LONELY DEATH IS BITTER FAILURE.
--WON'T HAVE... ANOTHER ...CHANCE...

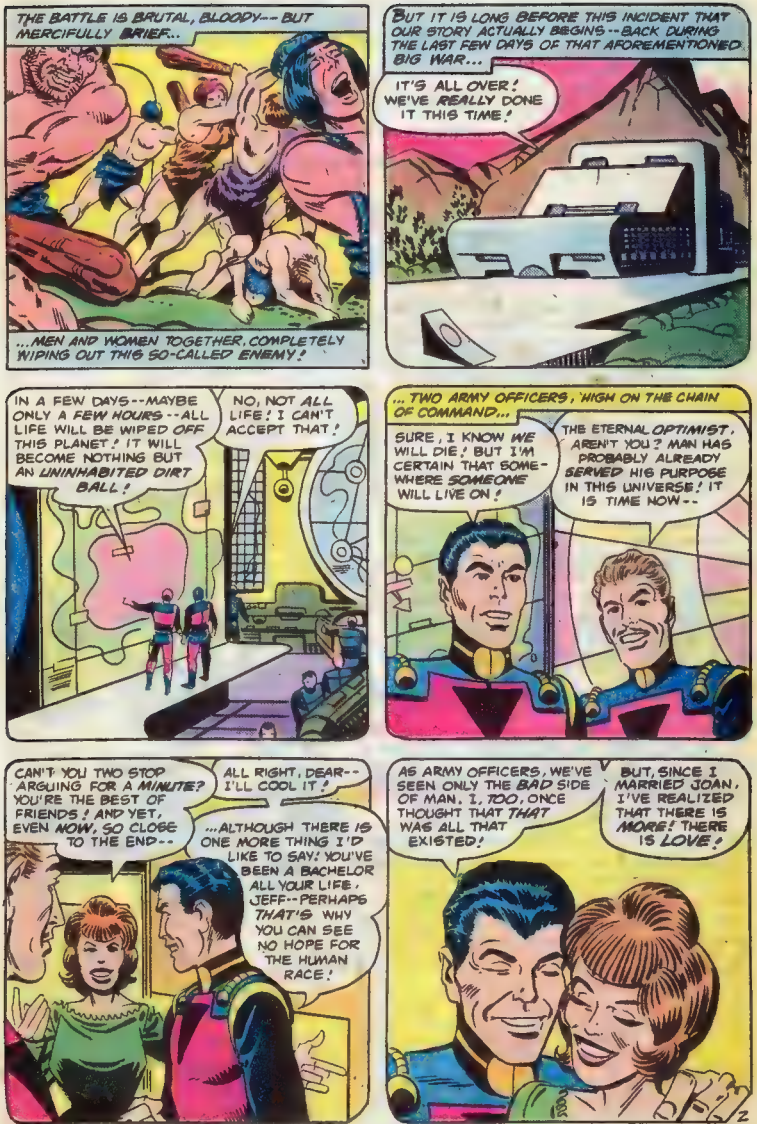
PERHAPS.
(CAN YOU HEAR ME, MY FRIEND? DO YOU UNDERSTAND ME?)
AH, ENGLISH--I SPEAK A LITTLE, YES.
DO NOT WORRY, MY FRIEND--WE ARE ALL ON THE SAME JOURNEY.
WHAT... IS THIS--A PRISON SHIP?
WHO--WHO ARE YOU?
AND WE HAVE REACHED OUR DESTINATION.
WHERE AM I? MY GOD--WHEN AM I?
AMONG THE SEEKING REFUGEES WHO CAME FROM MANY LANDS WAS ONE FROM ANOTHER TIME, WHOSE STORY WAS NEVERTHELESS MUCH LIKE THEIRS.
THE PLACE THEY SOUGHT WAS CALLED AMERICA, AND WHAT IT WAS THEN--AND PERHAPS WOULD BE AGAIN--WAS THE HOME OF THE SECOND CHANCE.
The End



YET, THE MOTIVES, THE DESIRES, THAT BROUGHT CIVILIZATION TO AN END STILL EXIST-- THE WISH FOR MORE TERRITORY, MORE POSSESSIONS, MORE POWER. SO, WATCH NOW AS A WAR-LIKE TRIBE BRUTALLY ATTACKS A FAR MORE PEACEFUL GROUP, THE FORMER SEEKING SIMPLY TERRITORIAL EXPANSION, WHILE SHOUTING A RUMBLING AND GUTTERAL...

BATTLE CRY!

STORY:	ART:	LETTERING:	COLORING:
STEVE SKEATES	STEVE DITKO	MILT SNAPINN	JERRY SERPE


THE BATTLE IS BRUTAL, BLOODY--- BUT MERCIFULLY BRIEF...
...MEN AND WOMEN TOGETHER, COMPLETELY WIPING OUT THIS SO-CALLED ENEMY!
BUT IT IS LONG BEFORE THIS INCIDENT THAT OUR STORY ACTUALLY BEGINS--BACK DURING THE LAST FEW DAYS OF THAT AFOREMENTIONED BIG WAR...
IT'S ALL OVER! WE'VE REALLY DONE IT THIS TIME!
IN A FEW DAYS--MAYBE ONLY A FEW HOURS--ALL LIFE WILL BE WIPED OFF THIS PLANET! IT WILL BECOME NOTHING BUT AN UNINHABITED DIRT BALL!
NO, NOT ALL LIFE! I CAN'T ACCEPT THAT!
...TWO ARMY OFFICERS, HIGH ON THE CHAIN OF COMMAND...
SURE, I KNOW WE WILL DIE! BUT I'M CERTAIN THAT SOMEWHERE SOMEONE WILL LIVE ON!
THE ETERNAL OPTIMIST, AREN'T YOU? MAN HAS PROBABLY ALREADY SERVED HIS PURPOSE IN THIS UNIVERSE! IT IS TIME NOW--
CAN'T YOU TWO STOP ARGUING FOR A MINUTE? YOU'RE THE BEST OF FRIENDS! AND YET, EVEN NOW, SO CLOSE TO THE END--
ALL RIGHT, DEAR--I'LL COOL IT!
...ALTHOUGH THERE IS ONE MORE THING I'D LIKE TO SAY! YOU'VE BEEN A BACHELOR ALL YOUR LIFE, JEFF--PERHAPS THAT'S WHY YOU CAN SEE NO HOPE FOR THE HUMAN RACE!
AS ARMY OFFICERS, WE'VE SEEN ONLY THE BAD SIDE OF MAN. I, TOO, ONCE THOUGHT THAT THAT WAS ALL THAT EXISTED!
BUT, SINCE I MARRIED JOAN, I'VE REALIZED THAT THERE IS MORE! THERE IS LOVE!

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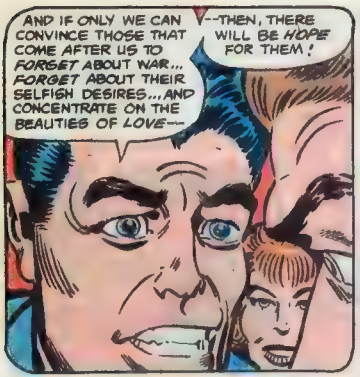
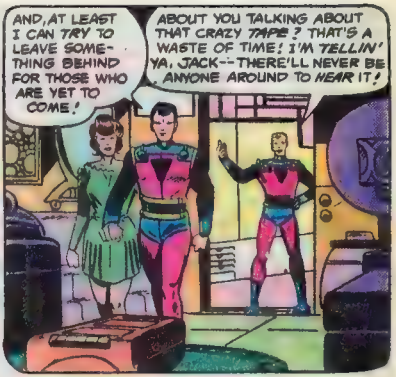
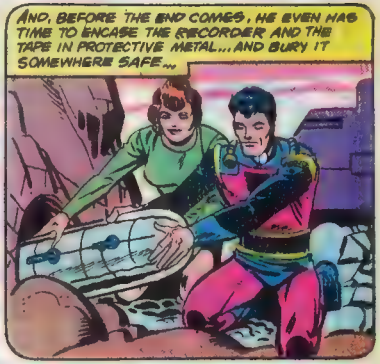
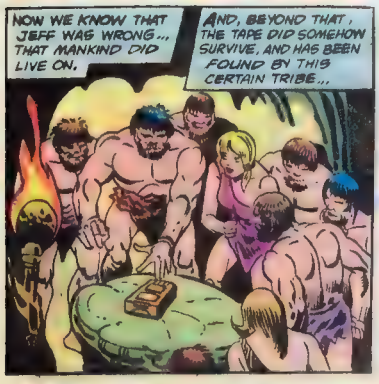
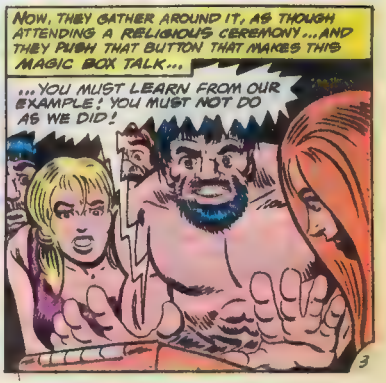

AND IF ONLY WE CAN CONVINCE THOSE THAT COME AFTER US TO FORGET ABOUT WAR... FORGET ABOUT THEIR SELFISH DESIRES... AND CONCENTRATE ON THE BEAUTIES OF LOVE--
--THEN, THERE WILL BE HOPE FOR THEM!


AND, AT LEAST I CAN TRY TO LEAVE SOMETHING BEHIND FOR THOSE WHO ARE YET TO COME!
ABOUT YOU TALKING ABOUT THAT CRAZY TAPE? THAT'S A WASTE OF TIME! I'M TELLIN' YA, JACK--THERE'LL NEVER BE ANYONE AROUND TO HEAR IT!

BUT HE WORKS ON IT LONG AND HARD ANY-WAY--POURING HIS EMOTIONS OUT INTO THE MACHINE...


AND, BEFORE THE END COMES, HE EVEN HAS TIME TO ENCASE THE RECORDER AND THE TAPE IN PROTECTIVE METAL... AND BURY IT SOMEWHERE SAFE...


NOW WE KNOW THAT JEFF WAS WRONG... THAT MANKIND DID LIVE ON.
AND, BEYOND THAT, THE TAPE DID SOMEHOW SURVIVE, AND HAS BEEN FOUND BY THIS CERTAIN TRIBE...


NOW, THEY GATHER AROUND IT, AS THOUGH ATTENDING A RELIGIOUS CEREMONY... AND THEY PUSH THAT BUTTON THAT MAKES THIS MAGIC BOX TALK...
...YOU MUST LEARN FROM OUR EXAMPLE! YOU MUST NOT DO AS WE DID!

THEY LISTEN INTENTLY TO JACK'S INTENSE, EMOTIONAL WORDS... THE WORDS OF A MAN WHO DIED HUNDREDS AND HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO...

THE WAYS OF WAR ARE WRONG; THEY WILL ONLY LEAD TO YOUR ULTIMATE DESTRUCTION!

YOU ARE THE LAST HOPE OF THE HUMAN RACE! YOU MUST LEARN THE WAYS OF PEACE! YOU MUST WIPE ALL SELFISH DESIRES FROM MINDS, AND LEARN TO SHARE AND TO LOVE! YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO COVET WHAT YOUR NEIGHBORS POSSESS! YOU MUST LEARN TO LOVE! LOVE! LOVE!

AS THE TAPE ENDS, THEY TURN AND LEAVE THE CAVE... DETERMINATION CLEARLY ETCHED UPON THEIR FACES...

YET KNOW THAT KNOWLEDGE OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE WAS YET ANOTHER CASUALTY OF THE BIG WAR... THESE PRIMITIVES KNOW NOTHING ABOUT THE WORDS THAT JACK SPOKE...

IT IS THE INTENSITY OF HIS VOICE TO WHICH THEY RELATE...

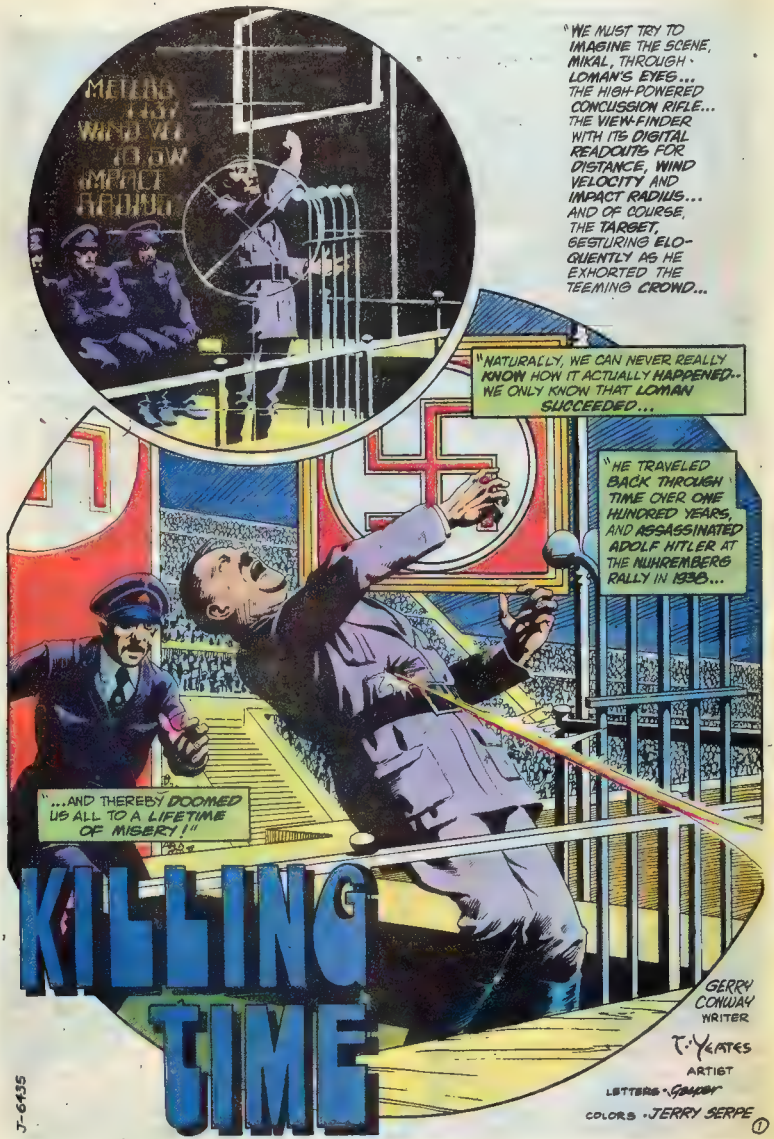
AND THERE IS ONE CERTAIN WORD HE SPOKE AGAIN AND AGAIN THAT THEY PARTICULARLY LIKE... FOR HE SAID IT AS THOUGH IT WERE A COMMAND... AN ORDER..

LOVE!

IT IS THIS THAT HAS BECOME THEIR BATTLE CRY IN THIS, THEIR CONTINUING BRUTAL GRASPING FOR MORE TERRITORY, POSSESSIONS AND POWER...

LOVE! LOVE! LOVE!

END


"WE MUST TRY TO IMAGINE THE SCENE, MIKAL, THROUGH LOMAN'S EYES... THE HIGH-POWERED CONCUSSION RIFLE... THE VIEW-FINDER WITH ITS DIGITAL READOUTS FOR DISTANCE, WIND VELOCITY AND IMPACT RADIUS... AND OF COURSE, THE TARGET, GESTURING ELOQUENTLY AS HE EXHORTED THE TEEMING CROWD...
METERS
WIND VEL
IMPACT RADIUS
"NATURALLY, WE CAN NEVER REALLY KNOW HOW IT ACTUALLY HAPPENED.. WE ONLY KNOW THAT LOMAN SUCCEEDED...
"HE TRAVELED BACK THROUGH TIME OVER ONE HUNDRED YEARS, AND ASSASSINATED ADOLF HITLER AT THE NUREMBERG RALLY IN 1938...
"...AND THEREBY DOOMED US ALL TO A LIFETIME OF MISERY!"
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GERRY CONWAY WRITER
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"IMAGINE THE CONSTERNATION AND HORROR AS THE PARTY CHIEFS SAW THEIR FÜHRER LYING SPRAWLED, HIS BODY BLACKENED AND LIFELESS, STRUCK DOWN ON THE EVE OF HIS GREATEST TRIUMPH...
"AND LOMAN, WE CAN ALMOST SEE HIS EXHILARATION, HIS JOY...FOR, HASN'T HE JUST SLAIN HISTORY'S GREATEST MURDERER--BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR--THEREBY SAVING THE LIVES OF COUNTLESS MILLIONS?
"BUT ONLY NOW WOULD LOMAN REALIZE HIS TERRIBLE ERROR... AS THE SHOCKED CROWDS WHIRL, SEEKING THEIR MASTER'S KILLER... AND SEE LOMAN, EXPOSED AND STARTLED...
"LOMAN, WHO WAS ABOVE ALL THINGS A PEACEFUL MAN--WHO WAS DRIVEN TO THE ACT OF ASSASSINATION ONLY BY HIS GRIEF FOR THOSE DEAD MILLIONS...
"LOMAN, COMPLETELY UNABLE TO USE HIS LASER RIFLE TO DEFEND HIMSELF...
YAAAAAA
"...AND WHO THUS PAID THE ULTIMATE PRICE FOR HIS IDEALS!

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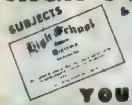
HIGH SCHOOL

SUBJECTS & RING



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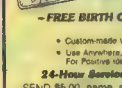

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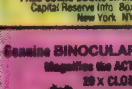

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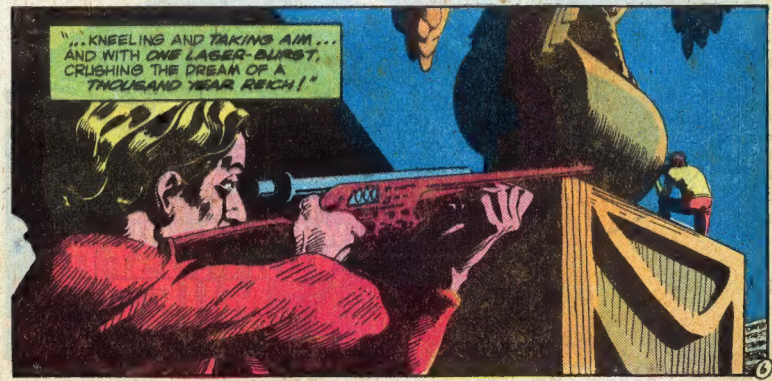
"BUT LOMAN WOULD NOT BE THE ONLY ONE TO PAY FOR HIS NAIVE IDEALISM ...
"NO... THERE WERE OTHERS WHOSE LIVES WOULD BE COLLECTED IN PAYMENT FOR LOMAN'S FOLLY...
"...AND THANKS TO LOMAN'S GIFT, HISTORY WOULD BE CHANGED INDEED...
"...BUT IN OUR NEW WORLD, INSTEAD OF BEING PRAISED AS THE SAVIOR OF MILLIONS, LOMAN IS CURSED AS THE SUPREME BETRAYER OF MANKIND--
"--THE ARCHITECT OF ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF NAZI RULE!"

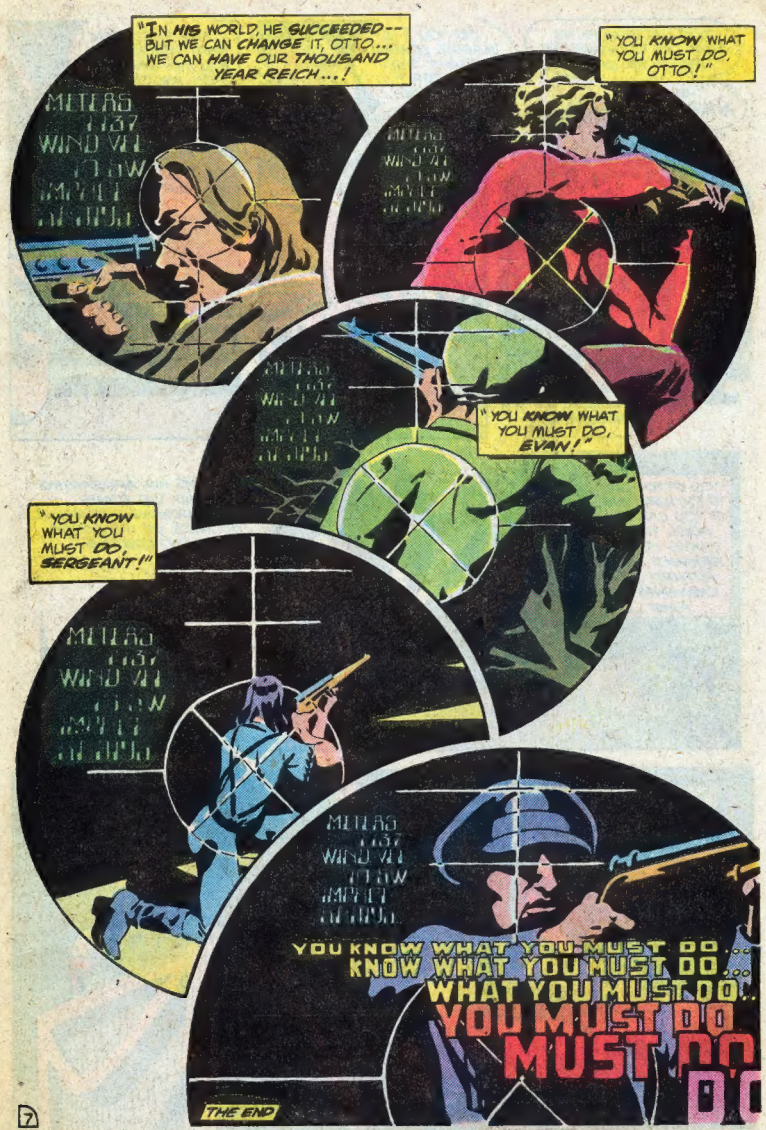
CAN YOU SEE IT, MIKAL? CAN YOU IMAGINE IT?
DEAR GOD, PROFESSOR, IF WHAT YOU'VE TOLD ME IS TRUE--
--THEN THE WORLD WE KNOW WAS CREATED BY ONE MAN, AND CAN BE CHANGED AS EASILY BY ANOTHER! WE COULD CRUSH THE REICH--BEFORE IT EVEN BEGAN!
BUT HOW DO YOU KNOW ALL THIS...WHAT PROOF DO YOU HAVE--?
CLICK!
I KNOW IT IS TRUE BECAUSE LOMAN WAS MY FRIEND--IN ANOTHER TIME-LINE, ANOTHER REALITY, A REALITY WHERE THE NAZIS WERE DEFEATED IN 1945!
AS FOR THE PROOF...LOOK OVER THERE...
THIS SPHERE? WHAT IS IT?
LOMAN KNEW THAT IF HE SUCCEEDED IN ALTERING THE PAST, OUR PRESENT WOULD ALSO CHANGE...AND PERHAPS HE WOULD NO LONGER EXIST!
SO HE BUILT THIS STASIS SPHERE...
...A SPHERE THAT COULD EXIST OUTSIDE TIME, AND THUS WOULD SURVIVE ANY CHANGES IN OUR PRESENT, DUE TO LOMAN'S ACTIVITIES IN THE PAST...
APPARENTLY, THIS IS WHAT OCCURRED--OUR WORLD WAS ALTERED BY HITLER'S ASSASSINATION, BUT THE SPHERE REMAINED UNCHANGED!

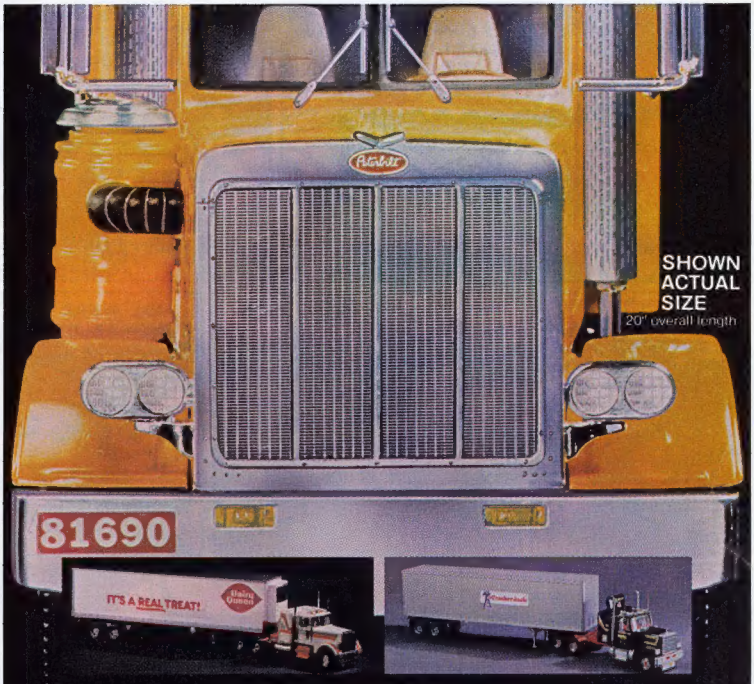
INSIDE IT IS A COMPLETE RECORD, IN PICTURES AND DIAGRAMS, OF LOMAN'S PLANS FOR TRAVELING BACK IN TIME... AND HIS PURPOSE!
AND IN ADDITION... BLUEPRINTS FOR HIS TIME MACHINE!
MY GOD.
THE BLUEPRINTS, PROFESSOR-- CAN YOU READ THEM? CAN YOU BUILD THE MACHINE--?
I'VE ALREADY BUILT THE MACHINE--YOU SEE IT BEFORE YOU--AND NOW, I WANT YOU TO USE IT TO TRAVEL BACK INTO THE PAST--
--AND KILL LOMAN BEFORE HE KILLS ADOLF HITLER!
YOU YOUNG FOOL, WHY DO YOU THINK I ASKED YOU HERE, ENDANGERING US BOTH WITH THE SS?
DO YOU THINK IT'S POSSIBLE--TO CHANGE HISTORY... AGAIN?
NOT ONLY POSSIBLE, I BELIEVE IT'S HAPPENED BEFORE, NOT ONCE, BUT AN INFINITY OF TIMES! NOT THAT IT MATTERS!
EACH OF US PERCEIVES OUR WORLD AS THE ONLY POSSIBLE REALITY...
...BUT WITH TIME TRAVEL, AN INFINITY OF WORLDS BECOMES NOT ONLY POSSIBLE, BUT PROBABLE! LOMAN WENT BACK IN TIME IN ONE WORLD... NOW YOU GO BACK IN ANOTHER REALITY, FOR ANOTHER MOTIVE...
PERHAPS SOMEONE ELSE WILL GO BACK FROM ANOTHER REALITY... AND ON, AND ON... BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER!
5

WHAT MATTERS IS, WE MUST TRY TO CHANGE THE PAST, IF WE CAN!
THE ALTERNATIVE...
NEVER MIND, PROFESSOR. I UNDERSTAND.
DO YOU? I IMAGINE LOMAN THOUGHT THAT HE UNDER— STOOD, TOO...
HHMMM
...AND I WONDER WHAT HORRORS YOU MAY UNLEASH UPON ANOTHER, UNSUSPECTING WORLD...

"YES, OTTO--TRY TO PICTURE HIM, IF YOU CAN: A FOOL WHO THINKS HE CAN REMAKE THE FUTURE BY CHANGING THE PAST...
"IMAGINE HIM APPEARING BEHIND THE STAGE OVERLOOKING THE RALLY... SO FULL OF HIS HOPES AND DREAMS...


"...KNEELING AND TAKING AIM... AND WITH ONE LASER-BURST, CRUSHING THE DREAM OF A THOUSAND YEAR REICH!"


"IN HIS WORLD, HE SUCCEEDED-- BUT WE CAN CHANGE IT, OTTO... WE CAN HAVE OUR THOUSAND YEAR REICH...!
"YOU KNOW WHAT YOU MUST DO, OTTO!"
"YOU KNOW WHAT YOU MUST DO, EVAN!"
"YOU KNOW WHAT YOU MUST DO, SERGEANT!"
YOU KNOW WHAT YOU MUST DO...
KNOW WHAT YOU MUST DO...
WHAT YOU MUST DO...
YOU MUST DO
MUST DO
THE END



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IT'S O.J. SIMPSON BREAKING OFF TACKLE! HE'S AT THE 40, THE 30. HE'S GOING ALL THE WAY. IT'S A TOUCH DOWN!
LATER ... IN THE LOCKER ROOM
WOW! O.J. SIMPSON! LET'S GET HIS AUTOGRAPH!
AW, A SUPERSTAR LIKE HIM WOULDN'T NOTICE US...
HEY! WITH THOSE DINGO BOOTS, YOU GUYS LOOK LIKE SUPERSTARS! O.J.!
HOW'D YOU KNOW WE WERE WEARING DINGO'S?
MAN, IT'S EASY! NOBODY PUTS LEATHER TOGETHER LIKE DINGO! I WEAR DINGO'S MYSELF!
YOU WEAR DINGO'S, O.J.!
SURE! I'VE GOT TO PUT SOMETHING SPECIAL ON MY FEET AFTER A GREAT GAME.
HEY, O.J. HOW ABOUT AN AUTOGRAPH?
FOR THE DINGO KIDS? YOU BET!
O.J. Dingo
KIDS! GET YOUR FREE AUTOGRAPHED PHOTO OF ME, O.J.! MAIL TO "O.J. DINGO", P.O. BOX 749, CLARKSVILLE, TENN. 37040.
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